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DOYLE REQUESTS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FROM ARMY CORPS

Full Study Would Address Concerns in Panorama Valley

Monroe County Executive Jack Doyle has requested that the Army Corps of Engineers conduct a Full Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) as part of the work underway to address flooding issues in Penfield's Panorama Valley.

"Our long term goal is to protect homes and businesses from flooding in the Panorama Valley," said Doyle. "To ensure that our solution is sensitive to the environmental factors within this habitat area, I believe that a Full Environmental Impact Statement is not only warranted but necessary. I am also very pleased to report that the Corps of Engineers has been receptive to the idea of conducting a FEIS."

The County of Monroe and Town of Penfield have asked the Corps to revisit and update their 1982 plan to alleviate flooding concerns in and around the confluence of Irondequoit and Allen Creeks. As part of this process, a *Flood Damage Reduction Study* has been undertaken.

The Corps of Engineers had planned on conducting an Environmental Assessment/Finding of No Significant Impact (EA/FONSI) as part of their *Flood Damage Reduction Study*. The *Flood Damage Reduction Study* is being conducted under the authority of section 205 of the 1948 Flood Control Act.

During a recent public meeting to discuss the process and the 1982 plan, many area residents raised concerns that the EA/FONSI would not adequately address environmental concerns surrounding possible Corps action for future flood protection.

"I agree with the sentiments of area residents, who want to be sure that any actions taken to correct flooding do not inadvertently upset the balance within the ecosystems found in Panorama Valley," said Doyle. "I believe a Full Environmental Impact Statement is the best way to accomplish this and I am hopeful that the Army Corps will follow that course of action."

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